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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/578,038
Applicant : Tomoyoshi YABE
Filed : May 25, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2623
Examiner : Virginia M. Kibler

Confirmation No. 6470

Docket No. : HIAS.95176
Customer No. : 30902

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MAY 27 2004

Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on February 25, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.